



BROMLEY CIRCLE NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023



In November we were delighted to welcome Sally and Caroline, our devoted musicians, to help us celebrate our Bromley Circle Annual Mass for Deceased members and families. This is the 7th or 8th year they have celebrated this very special Mass with us, which means so much to everyone, especially those who have lost a loved one in the past year. We remembered dear Pauline Parker and Ranjana Chauhan. It was very moving to celebrate with our Widows too, although sadly not all of them can travel safely at this time of the year. Fr Bryan Wells celebrated, Barry was a Deacon at the Mass and many Brothers and Ladies took part in the readings. St Swithin's Church was an excellent venue for this intimate service and provided a very spiritual atmosphere, which helped to promote Pope John Paul II's words: "when song and music are signs of the Holy Spirit's presence and action, they encourage, in a certain way, communion with the Trinity" (John Paul II, Address to the Pontifical Institute). Look out for next year's Mass and book the date. Duncan



At the 600th Meeting of Cork Circle: John and myself were joined by Val and Marian, and my daughter Stephanie and her husband JJ, who travelled from Manchester. Marian met a most interesting Catenian from Birkenhead who managed his own Team Building events and staff days, accelerating team relationships to their full potential. Perhaps the Bromley Circle should consider attending one weekend. It is based in Wirral, Cheshire. Any takers?

WELFARE REPORT:

Our prayers are asked for Aidan McPartlan who met his Consultant recently and been promised a hospital appointment early next year, hopefully he says! Please keep him and Kathy in your prayers. Some good news, Billie has passed her driving test in an adapted car and can now be mobile can visit the shops with her Mother which is terrific news. Please continue to keep Billie and her family in your prayers. Brian Daley still needs our prayers. Brian attends the PRU for 4-6 hours infusion which is very tedious and time consuming; however, Brian is more mobile now, and hopefully we will have the pleasure of seeing him and Bridget at Brother's Joe lunch in January 2024. We remember Roy Parker and his unofficial carer Emma and her family who take care of Roy. The Circle should recognise her efforts for Roy over many years now. I spoke to Tom Mullally at the Mings meal, and he tells me his Mother Maureen is keeping very well, plays bridge and I think he said she is playing the piano! Hope, I remembered this correctly! We keep all our dear Widows in our prayers at this time and also our Brothers Jaydev and Roy who will be without their dear loved ones at Christmas this year. We should also have a prayer for all our Brothers and Sisters in the troubled spots around the world and pray for a resolution in the Middle East as soon as possible.

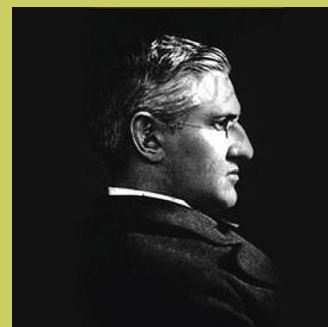


WHAT CONVERSATIONS TAKE PLACE WHEN CATENIANS MEET ?

I pose this question following a wonderful dinner at Mings last week at the Circle's Christmas meal where I was sitting next to Ian Langdrige and Tom Mullally and we spoke about our faith. It started when I said that if I like a piece of music, I normally play it on repeat/loop. I can listen to the same piece of music for one hour or more; if Marian allows (i.e. if she is out of the room or out of the house visiting the grandchildren!!). This music can be any genre, pop, classical, folk or even a hymn ! I then explained that one hymn in particular I often play is entitled "It is well with my soul." I went on to reveal that it was written by a hero of mine, named Horatio Spafford! I sent them a link to this very brave and spiritual man.



IT IS
well
WITH MY
soul



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MARANATHA!

If you have time this Christmas to listen to one piece of music this Christmas and have time to ponder; then listen to Maranatha by Harpa die! Meditative song for Advent. A beautiful way to spend a short time of 11 minutes 20 seconds to bring the spirit of Christmas into your life!! May I add my own and Marian's best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Duncan